

## SUMMARY OF WATER QUALITY ORDER

<b>ORDER NO.</b>	WQ 2005-0005
<b>DATE ADOPTED</b>	March 16, 2005
<b>PETITION TITLE</b>	Petition of City of Manteca For Review of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2004-0028 [NPDES No. CA0081558] and Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2004-0029
<b>POPULAR NAME</b> <i>[if applicable]</i>	
<b>REGIONAL BOARD</b>	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
<b>FILE NO[S]</b>	SWRCB/OCC File A-1634

### NON-PRECEDENTIAL DECISION

On March 16, 2005, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) issued a non-precedential order that revised effluent limitations for electrical conductivity (EC) established by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) in the City of Manteca's (City) NPDES permit for its wastewater treatment plant. The order reviews the history of the southern Delta water quality objectives for EC, the causes of high salinity in the Delta, and the fact that Water Right Decision 1641 assigns responsibility for meeting the irrigation season EC objectives to the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources. The order also notes that the State Water Board recently committed to review southern Delta EC objectives as part of its periodic review of the Delta plan.

The EC of the City's effluent is expected to decline due to a shift to lower salinity water for part of the City's supply, and further reductions are expected to be achieved through other source control measures. However, the order finds that compliance with the irrigation season effluent limitation for EC established by the Central Valley Water Board would require costly construction and operation of a reverse osmosis treatment plan. In view of the history of the southern Delta EC objectives and the fact that the objectives may be revised, the order concludes that it would not be reasonable to include the 700 micromhos per centimeter ( $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ ) irrigation season effluent limitation in the City's permit at this time. The EC effluent limitation is modified to 1000  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$  year-round.

The order upholds the permit effluent limitations for iron, manganese, methylene blue active substances (MBAS), arsenic, copper and cyanide. The order modifies the permit to allow for discharges of treated wastewater during periods of net downstream flow of 0.5 foot per second, rather than during periods of outgoing tides. The order also amends the City's permit by revising the method of measurement for determining compliance with the effluent limitation for aluminum. Finally, the order provides that the compliance provisions in a cease and desist order issued by the Central Valley Water Board shall apply to the City's permit as revised by the State Water Board order.